



# CONNECTIONS

*EEO + Diversity + Science*

EEO/Diversity Newsletter for NOAA Research [Google link to this issue](#)

INTERN EDITION 2023

IN THIS ISSUE



By **Terri Hunter**

The OAR EEO/Diversity Program Office is excited to highlight some of this year's interns doing work across OAR. Throughout this issue, all of the interns have expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to gain meaningful work experiences and contribute to NOAA's science.

Thanks to all the labs and program offices who contributed to this Special Student Edition of our newsletter!

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- [CSL](#)
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We want to thank everyone who provided information about the interns highlighted in this special issue.

Student highlights are presented in the order that we received the information via email.

Photos and summaries were made to fit depending on the amount of intern information provided. No one intern is highlighted over others.

- OAR EEO Program Office

OAP



*Zach Strasberg*

**Zach Strasberg** is a Lapenta intern with Ocean Acidification Program (OAP) for the summer. He is originally from Fairfax, Virginia and did his undergraduate at James Madison University in Geology with minors in Math and Statistics before moving to Albuquerque, New Mexico to attend the University of New Mexico to get his Master's in Earth and Planetary Sciences.

His Master's research assesses the effects of climate change, specifically the increased temperature's role in evaporation rates, on the strength of the current drought (2000-Present) in the Western United States, relative to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration divisional weather data since 1895.

Zach plans to continue this work for his PhD in Earth and Planetary Sciences with funding from the Sandia National Laboratories. Outside of work, he enjoys hiking, watching and playing sports, good food, and playing backgammon.

**Lalah Choice** is a Washington, District of Columbia native and rising Junior at Florida A&M University, majoring in Environmental Studies with a minor in Urban Studies and Economic Development. She was named an Educational Partnership Program with Minority-Serving Institutions scholar for the class of 2023. Lalah is also a part of The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Center for Coastal and Marine Ecosystems (NOAA CCME).

This program allows students of minority serving institutions to gain hands-on work and research experience while working alongside a NOAA research project or projects led by graduate and doctorate students. She is assisting her CCME mentor to track the accessibility and utility of NOAA harmful algal blooms data that is available to the public.

Following her academic studies, she wants to be in a position where she can influence policy in order to protect coastal waters, marine life and communities. It is her ongoing mission to increase awareness and interest surrounding science, climate and the environment in Black and other marginalized communities, as well as to communicate and understand the value of the environment linkage to culture and history.



*Lalah Choice*

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*Isaac Olson*

**Isaac Olson** is entering his fourth year as an undergraduate at the University of Washington, Seattle studying Oceanography and Environmental Studies focused on how the ocean is changing, how it impacts our lives, and how we can address it.

As a Filipino-Korean cognizant of the underrepresentation of Asians in earth sciences and the undue burdens placed on Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) due to the climate crisis, he continually centers environmental justice, inclusion, equity, and accessibility in all his work.

He urges the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to continue to expand upon their diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility efforts, as without an emphasis on equity, there can be no true solutions to any environmental crises.

Isaac is a Class of 2022 recipient of the Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship. As a Hollings Scholar, he is working in the Ocean Acidification Program (OAP) to increase regional ocean acidification (OA) communication pathways through several projects.

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## GOMO

This summer, **Kelli Ong** is working with the Arctic Research Program (ARP) under the Global Ocean Monitoring & Observing (GOMO) Program as an Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions (EPP/MSI) Undergraduate Scholar. Kelli is a rising junior and aspiring marine scientist from Los Angeles, CA.

She is currently attending the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her internship project is to create web pages for the 2023 ARP projects that highlight access links to Arctic datasets, relevant resources, and summaries of research goals and objectives.

One of Kelli's research goals is to conduct research in both poles (Arctic and Antarctic) on the impacts of climate change on ecosystem interactions. Being able to work with projects that focus on this research goal has been very eye-opening and given Kelli insight as to where her research could possibly go in the future.

As someone who hopes to work for NOAA in the future, Kelli also enjoyed learning about the inner workings of a NOAA office, specifically in regards to networking and learning from leaders in Arctic research.

Kelli shared that her experience working in the agency has given her "a lot of hope that diverse voices can make a difference in NOAA".



**Kelli Ong**



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**Diego Rivera**

This summer, intern **Diego Rivera** has joined the NOAA Global Ocean Monitoring and Observing (GOMO) Program as part of the Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship. Diego is an undergraduate student pursuing a B.S. degree in Environmental Science as well as a Climatology and Meteorology Certificate at the University of Florida, Gainesville.

His summer project at GOMO focuses on sea level rise impacts on small island developing states in the tropical Pacific, specifically the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

Diego's driving motivation is researching and addressing the impacts of climate change. His work this summer has allowed Diego to gain new skills in both research and communication related to sea level rise in the tropical Pacific. It has also given Diego a unique first-hand view of the internal working of NOAA and how program managers use science to inform policy decisions.

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## GFDL



**Berenize Garcia-Nueva**



*Through this experience one key thing Berenize learned about herself was that in a professional environment she needs to be both intellectually stimulated and engaged in a mission that benefits society.*

For many scientists, culture, identity, and lived experiences shape our passions and interests. These facets of who we are compel us to work hard not only to understand the world around us, but to also help our communities.

NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) Intern, **Berenize Garcia-Nueva** (she/her), exactly exemplifies this.

Hailing from Brooklyn, New York, "Bere" is a brilliant Indigenous and Latina Mexican-American woman. She is a rising senior at Williams College double majoring in Geoscience and Mathematics.

In her own words, studying heat extremes was a compelling topic because she often worries about the agricultural workers who cannot afford to take a day off, and more often than not, come from similar communities as Berenize. "It is a matter of life or death," she says.

**William Yik** is from Pocatello, Idaho and is currently a rising senior at Harvey Mudd College where he is pursuing a B.S. in computer science and mathematics with an emphasis in environmental analysis.

He is a NOAA Ernest F. Hollings scholar and is working at the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) with Maike Sonnewald on inferring subsurface ocean physics with machine learning.

"Most interns come to GFDL with more background knowledge in physical sciences than in coding and data science. I was basically the opposite, but that's allowed me to learn so much from both the other interns and resident scientists. The interdisciplinary nature of a lot of climate science work is fascinating, though it's hard to immerse yourself in it as an undergraduate where you're typically focused on one or two fields of study. Internships like those offered through NOAA can place you at labs where there are a wide variety of scientists tackling different topics that you can learn from."



Tasmeem Jahan Meem is an environmental engineering graduate student at Syracuse University.

She is originally from Bogura, Bangladesh. This summer, she worked as an intern at the NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory through the Cooperative Institute for Modeling the Earth System (CIMES) internship program.



**William Yik**

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**Jennifer Melara-Valle** is a DACA student attending Framingham State University in Framingham, Massachusetts. She's majoring in Earth Systems with a minor in Data Analytics.

She was born in El Salvador and grew up surrounded by nature and a nearby volcano that always made her curious about Earth and its various fields.

Jenny is a CIMES intern at GFDL, working with Dr. Marco Corrales and Dr. Jessica Luo in the use of plankton imaging systems to validate satellite based estimates of plankton size structure. Where she's comparing satellite data and data from various imaging systems to have a better understanding of plankton size structure and their impacts to marine ecosystems.

**Lily Johnston** (she/her) was born in Darien, CT, and is an incoming senior at Colorado College, majoring in Environmental Science with a minor in Urban Studies.

Lily is a summer intern at the Cooperative Institute for Modeling the Earth System, Princeton University, working with Dr. Linjiong Zhou on the "Evaluation of Clouds and Precipitation Prediction in the Sub-10-km SHIELD Prediction System" project.

Through her research, Lily has identified areas with potential for improvement and evaluated how accurately the GFDL SHIELD model can predict clouds and precipitation.



Using statistical analyses, she was able to determine to what extent we can enhance prediction accuracy by doubling the model resolution, i.e., using a 6.5 km resolution instead of a 13 km resolution.

About her future goal, Lily said, "I am planning on pursuing a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science and a research career at NOAA or another government agency working on numerical weather prediction."



**Evren Arif** is originally from Burlington, Massachusetts, and is currently majoring in Geology, Applied Math, and Biology at Tufts University.

"In the future, I aspire to obtain a PhD in a field that combines organic geochemistry, geobiology, or isotope geochemistry, with a specific interest in modeling systems. My motivation is to explore paleoclimatic and paleontological factors behind past climate change, studying how the evolution of Earth and its life forms have persisted over time.

The experience at GFDL has undoubtedly been instrumental in shaping my aspirations and providing me with the tools to achieve them."

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### Diandre' Richie

Senior at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Majoring in Environmental Science with a concentration in biological sciences and a minor in business.

Planning to go to graduate school to pursue a master's degree in either environmental management or sustainability.

**Rose Taylor** is a master's student in Environmental Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and is joining NOAA's Chemical Sciences Laboratory (CSL) as a visiting scholar for six months through the NSF Non-Academic Research Internships for Graduate Students (INTERN) program.

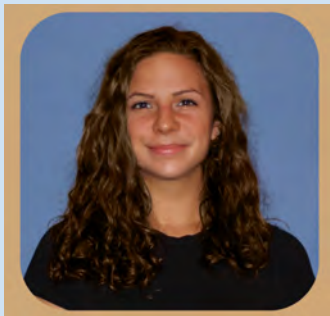
She is originally from Oak Park, Illinois, and got her bachelor's degree in Chemistry and Mathematics from the College of Wooster in 2019.

Since March, she has been working with scientists in the CSL Tropospheric Chemistry program to prepare two instruments for the Atmospheric Emissions and Reactions Observed from Megacities to Marine Areas (AEROMMA) field campaign. Starting in June, she will spend a total of 8 weeks flying on the NASA DC-8 Airborne Science Laboratory, operating and maintaining these instruments to measure the trace gases and aerosols that make up air pollution. During her time at CSL, she has learned about the operation and management of cavity ringdown spectrometers and cavity-enhanced spectrometers, and their use in atmospheric chemistry. She has also had a chance to learn fieldwork skills, such as aircraft-based sampling techniques, and working with a large collaborative multi-agency team in high-stress environments. We have been thrilled to have Rose as part of our team.

After the INTERN program, she will return to UMBC to finish her degree, which focuses on the uptake rates of oxygenated VOCs on aerosol using mist chamber techniques. After graduating, she plans to enter the environmental workforce, taking with her the many skills and professional networks that she built during her time at CSL.

About her time as an intern, she says "I'm extremely grateful to NOAA CSL and NSF's INTERN program for providing me the opportunity to work on such a groundbreaking project with experienced atmospheric scientists from around the world".

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### Hope Hunter

Graduate student pursuing a PhD in Environmental Engineering at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Graduate research investigates aerosol chemistry and its impacts on climate dynamics in the Arctic.



### Isabel Thornberry

Rising senior at Haverford College studying chemistry, biochemistry, and environmental studies.

Will likely pursue graduate school, but hoping that this summer will help her better define her interests moving forward.



### Isabella Dressel

Rising fourth-year from Clifton, VA. Studying Atmospheric Science through an interdisciplinary major program at the University of Virginia.

Plans to pursue a PhD in Atmospheric Science after graduation.

Please check out PMEL's *Meet the 2023 PMEL Interns and Fellows* presentation [here](#).



## AOML 2023 Summer Interns

On National Intern Day, AOML celebrated the 2023 summer internship class ranging from high school students to post doctoral fellows.

The interns joined AOML from schools across the country—from California to Florida—and researched corals, microbes, hurricanes, air-sea interaction, ocean acidification, communications strategies, and much more.

Some 2023 interns are Ernest F. Hollings Scholars and William M. Lapenta interns, which are both NOAA programs that provide hands-on opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students in the fields of Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences.

Meet the interns!



**Kelly Neighbour** is a rising senior at the University of Georgia majoring in Atmospheric Sciences & Geography, minoring in Spanish, and will be receiving a certificate in Geographic Information Science.

Kelly joined AOML's Hurricane Research Division this summer to assess the airborne Tail-Doppler Radar data quality control method that is currently used in NOAA Hurricane Reconnaissance missions.

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**Taylor Gill** is the current Coral Program Intern through CIMAS working under the guidance of CIMAS Scientist Michael Studivan, Ph.D. Gill's project focuses on assessing larval recruitment of urban coral habitats in the Port of Miami through in-situ fluorescence imaging.



**Ashvin Namboodiri** is currently enrolled at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric and Earth Science, pursuing a Master of Professional Science degree in the Natural





**Christian Amos** is a graduate student at Texas A&M University earning his Masters of Science (MS) degree and a NOAA Experiential Research and Training Opportunities (NERTO) Intern at AOML.

His ongoing project, entitled “Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations from Ships of Opportunity,” aims to synthesize atmospheric xCO<sub>2</sub> measurements collected on AOML’s Ships of Opportunity with the underway pCO<sub>2</sub> system. This involves assessing their quality, providing an estimate of their uncertainty, designing a procedure to facilitate their quality control, and comparing the data to other atmospheric xCO<sub>2</sub> databases.



**Zachary Zagon** is a current student at the University of Miami’s Rosenstiel School for Marine, Atmospheric and Earth Science earning his Masters of Professional Science (MPS) in Tropical Marine Ecology. He has designed a project to assess algal symbiont characterization of corals from CIMAS Scientist Ana Palacio’s Ph.D. research and determine whether multiple stressors impact coral and algal associations as well as disease susceptibility.

While an intern, Zagon has oriented this hands-on experience to complete his MPS degree at the University of Miami and will graduate in early August.

Hazards and Catastrophes degree track. During his time at AOML,

Ashwin will primarily be working and interacting with the HRD scientists and researchers to develop an inventory of products and techniques that have the potential to go into the Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS).

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**Autumn Reyna Dellorso** is a current graduate student at the University of Miami Rosenstiel School for Marine, Atmospheric and Earth Sciences earning her Masters of Professional Science Degree (MPS) in Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management.

As an intern with AOML’s Coral Program, she has developed a project focused on: “Comparing the Microbiomes of Corals Susceptible and Non-Susceptible to Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease in a Transmission Experiment.”

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**Hannah Hunter** is a NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Scholar from the University of California - Los Angeles within the Ocean Chemistry and Ecosystems Division (OCED).

Her research at AOML has culminated in a project entitled “Bioavailable Phosphorus in New England Forest Soils” focused on gaining a better understanding of how soils adsorb and release phosphate.

She is currently working towards her Bachelors of Science (BS) in Chemistry.

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**Brandon Feole** is a William Lapenta Intern from Johns Hopkins University working under the guidance of Chris Kelble, Ph.D., Luke Thompson, Ph.D., Enrique Montes, Ph.D. as a Student Intern within the Ocean Chemistry and Ecosystems Division (OCED).

With his internship, he is currently contributing to the ongoing project: “Generating a Time Series Record of Biodiversity in South Florida Waters Using eDNA Observations” while performing DNA extraction and bioinformatic analysis along with collecting samples on a research



**Kenzie Cooke** has been working with Ana Palacio, Ph.D. as an Undergraduate Student Assistant working through CIMAS. Cooke assists the Coral Program at AOML in experiments and related water chemistry analysis, as well as helping with current and future design and manufacturing needs.

She is currently earning a B.S. in Marine Biology and Ecology at the University of Miami.

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*"Being a part of the urban corals project has really emphasized to me the importance of this work for future coral restoration initiatives, especially in light of increasing anthropogenic impacts, and I hope to continue to be a part of this research." - Lorelei Ing*

**Lorelei Ing** is an Ernest F. Hollings Scholar completing her internship at AOML over the summer under the guidance of Michael Studivan, Ph.D. Ing is looking into the algal symbiont characterization of urbanized, inshore corals compared to those of offshore reefs found beyond urban environments to better understand differences among coral populations and potential stress resilience.

Beyond her work at AOML, she is working towards her Bachelors of Art in Biological Sciences and Classical Studies at Smith College.



**Akil Ligonsi** is an Ernest F. Hollings Scholar from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa working under the guidance of Luke Thompson, Ph.D., Enrique Montes, Ph.D. and Chris Kelble, Ph.D. within the Ocean Chemistry and Ecosystems Division (OCED) at AOML.

During his internship, he has contributed to the ongoing research entitled “Generating a Time-Series of Marine Biodiversity in South Florida Using eDNA Observations,” a joint effort between AOML and The Marine Biodiversity Observations Network (MBON). This allows Akili to amplify and sequence the eDNA for ‘Omics analyses, ultimately leading to a better understanding of the biodiversity in South Florida.

He is currently working towards his Bachelors of Science (BS) Degree in Marine Biology.

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**Lara Zadeh** first joined AOML's Ocean Chemistry and Ecosystems Division (OCED) as a MAST Academy High School Volunteer intern working with Enrique Montes, Ph.D. Under the guidance of Dr. Montes, Lara has led the construction of a PlanktoScope application. The

cruise in his second to last week at AOML.

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**Sterling Butler** is a graduate student at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School for Marine, Atmospheric and Earth Science working towards his Masters of Professional Science (MPS) in Tropical Marine Ecology while a student intern in the Coral Program at AOML under the guidance of Ian Enochs. While this internship is oriented towards completing his degree, Sterlings research involves looking into the potential parasitic bacteria *Candidatus Aquarickettsia rohweri* abundance in Staghorn Coral (*Acropora cervicornis*) for insights on growth, coral disease susceptibility and overall survivorship. This research will culminate in a final presentation for his degree as he is set to graduate in early December.



**Marike Pinsonneault** joined AOML's Office of the Director as a University of Miami Cooperative Institute Communications Intern.

For the next year, Marike will collaborate with the AOML Communications Team to promote the lab's research efforts by writing scientific articles for the AOML website, producing photos and videos, supporting and growing the lab's social media presence, assisting outreach initiatives, and more!

PlanktoScope is an open-source plankton imager that can be built using off-the-shelf parts.

Now an undergraduate student at the University of Miami, she is working with Dr. Montes on using this instrument to process preserved zooplankton samples collected across South Florida waters as part of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration cruises aboard the R/V Walton Smith.

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**Gabriella Lirio** is a William Lapenta Intern working within the Ocean Chemistry and Ecosystems Division under the guidance of Emily Osborne, Ph.D.

During her internship, she has designed a project entitled: “Using the Fossil Record Preserved in Marine Sediments to Understand Climate Change Impacts on the Gulf of Mexico Region.”

She is currently working towards her Bachelors of Science (BS) degree

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**Nina Castro Alves** is a recent graduate from Gulliver Preparatory School, and is heading to Duke University this fall. During her time at AOML, Nina will be working alongside Laura Chaibongsai and the AOML Comms team, gaining valuable hands-on experience with education, outreach, and media relations. Additionally, Nina will be assisting Neal Dorst with updating the aircraft mission historical database to ensure up-to-date digital records.



Nina is thrilled to be learning and gathering insights of NOAA's research, scientific communication, and public service that lays a strong foundation for my future and allows me to engage in something greater than myself.

**Emma Graves** is a William Lapenta Intern working in the Ocean Chemistry and Ecosystems Division (OCED) under the guidance of Emily Osborne, Ph.D. and Luke Thompson, Ph.D.

Her current research is focused on: “Tracking the Ocean Biological Carbon Pump Using ‘Omics Approaches.”

This has involved performing DNA extractions from sediment trap samples from the Gulf of Mexico as well as Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCRs) to prepare for sequencing of the eukaryotic and prokaryotic communities found in the samples, followed by bioinformatics analysis.



**Joseph Barry:** Born in the vast landscapes of West Texas and raised in Oklahoma, I have been captivated by the ever-changing weather patterns that grace this region. From a young age, my fascination with meteorology grew, and I aspired to comprehend and predict the powerful forces of nature that influence our lives.

Upon completing high school, I decided to push myself further and joined the U.S. Army Paratroopers, finding immense fulfillment in the discipline, camaraderie, and sense of purpose that came with serving my country. Despite my military commitment, my passion for meteorology remained steadfast, and I dedicated any spare moment to studying the weather.

After completing my term of service, I knew it was time to follow my heart and pursue a career in meteorology. I enrolled in a prestigious meteorology program in Oklahoma, eager to delve deeper into the intricacies of weather patterns, severe weather events, and their impact on communities.

As I continue this path, my passion for meteorology only intensifies. I have found myself drawn to the fascinating realm of atmospheric electricity, particularly lightning. I strive to become a reliable source of information and assistance during extreme weather events, helping to keep people safe and informed.

For my internship, I am advised by Dr. Vanna Chmielewski and Dr. Michael Stock. I focus on data analysis and have gained knowledge and skills surrounding research, managing/participating in field projects, atmospheric electricity, and much more.



**Joseph Barry**

I feel like I have landed in a place in which I love my job and what I do. The field of atmospheric electrification research is absolutely fascinating. I would wish to pursue this more.

The culture here values DEIA and has helped me find a place back into the world after leaving the military, which is hard for most.

I am grateful for the support and opportunities provided by organizations like the National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL) and the Cooperative Institute for Severe and High-Impact Weather Research and Operations (CIWRO), which have enabled me to pursue my passion and turn my dreams into reality.

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**Ethan Steward:** I am a double major in atmospheric sciences and mathematics, going into my senior year this fall (FA 23). Operational meteorology is a huge interest of mine, and even more so after volunteering at NWS Paducah last summer.

This summer, I was extremely lucky and got to participate in the NWC/OU REU program, where I was advised by Charles Kuster (NSSL), Dr. Addison Alford (NSSL), Dr. Terry Schuur (NSSL/CIWRO), Vivek Mahale (NWS Norman).

My research project was with NSSL and focused on comparing differential reflectivity arcs between phased array radar and WSR-88D data. I have gained knowledge and skills in radar fundamentals, interpreting radar data, presenting scientific content, scientific writing, how to balance obligations and duties, and managing time and research goals.

The experience has been absolutely incredible, and I would love to continue doing research in graduate school!

**Joshua Ostaszewski:** I am from San Antonio, TX. I graduated with a B.S in Meteorology and minor in Mathematics at Texas A&M University. I have recently finished a M.S in Atmospheric Sciences at Texas Tech University and am continuing to pursue a Ph.D.

I had the opportunity to be a tutor, teaching assistant, and participate in research as a TAMU undergraduate leading to my current success as a research assistant at TTU. I have been a part of multiple severe storm field campaigns, including TORUS, MESO 18-19, PERiLS, and TORUS-LitE, where I operated and maintained research radars and surface in-situ instruments.

Outside of research and field work, I love spending time with friends, family, and my dog Apollo. I also enjoy hiking, skiing, fishing, and going to arcades!

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**Cory A. Schultz:** I'm a senior at South Dakota Mines majoring in Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences. This is my second time attending college as I have a degree in Graphic Design and Photography from Black Hills State University. I plan to pursue a graduate degree in the same field at South Dakota Mines in Spring 2024 after graduation.

My current research interests include tornadoes over complex terrain and how the terrain can change the behavior of both the storm and the tornado (my senior capstone is Tornado Behavior Over Complex Terrain: Case Studies of the Northern Black Hills Tornadoes of 2015, 2018, and 2020), blizzard conditions in the Northern Great Plains, and how wildfires microclimates can impact the weather around them.

When not working on schoolwork or research, I enjoy hiking and camping in the Black Hills, playing disc golf, and enjoying a nice craft beer.



**Isaac J Medina:** With a combined interest in meteorology and aviation I have been studying at the University of Oklahoma to build an education in both fields. This has fostered interest in studying the environment and improving our understanding to improve human weather safety.

To do this, I want to pursue research in turbulence, complex terrain, and model-instrument integration.

Going forward I want to bring together observational and model data to integrate these new processes and products to supplement our current methods.

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## PSL



**Phoebe White** is a NOAA Pathways intern working in the Hydrology Applications Division (HAD) within the NOAA Physical Sciences Laboratory (PSL). She is a PhD student at Colorado State University (CSU) in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Her graduate research focuses on the post wildfire hydrologic response to extreme precipitation. Prior to graduate school she worked as a hydraulic engineer for the Colorado Department of Transportation. She received a BS in Environmental Engineering from West Point, after which she served in the US Army as an engineer officer.

Throughout the internship she has gained tools such as using visual and statistical methods to analyze probabilistic forecasts, working with highly dimensional datasets, understanding of subseasonal-to-seasonal (S2S) forecasting approaches, and evaluating synoptic conditions. She is excited to carry this insight into her work at CSU and beyond.

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**Lindsey Larvick** is currently pursuing a degree in Computer Science at Oregon State University, having previously studied International Studies, Asian Studies, and Chinese at the University of Oregon. During her three-month Student Trainee internship in Information Technology at NOAA's Physical Sciences Laboratory, Lindsey gained valuable experience through the Pathways Program. She immersed herself in various IT aspects, including diagnosing, researching, and resolving end user hardware and software issues.



The internship experience exposed Lindsey to a diverse and inclusive workforce, promoting a sense of belonging and empowerment. Being part of such an inclusive environment provided her with insights into the importance of diversity in problem-solving and teamwork, ultimately shaping her perspective on collaboration and creativity.

## OAA RESEARCH EEO/DIVERSITY PROGRAM OFFICE



**Nicole Mason EEO/Diversity  
Program Mgr 301-734-1279**

### ABOUT US

**VISION OF EEO OFFICE:** To assist the Agency in creating a diverse workforce that is inclusive and free of discriminatory and retaliatory actions.

**EEO MISSION:** To bring awareness to employees, applicants for employment and management about EEO through the following:

**Empowerment:** Consultation services to employees, managers and applicants for employment.

**Exposure:** Recruitment and outreach activities for short and long-term recruitment.

**Education:** Federal EEO Mandated training, Special Emphasis programs and Connections newsletter.

**Evaluation:** Monitor employment statistics to prepare reports for NOAA, DOC, EEOC and OPM.



Website: [eoo.oar.noaa.gov](http://eoo.oar.noaa.gov)

### CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

Connections is published quarterly by the OAR EEO/ Diversity Program Office. The purpose is to share accomplishments and to link Diversity, EEO, and Science within all of the OAR laboratories, program offices, and staff offices. If you have any newsletter ideas, suggestions, and stories to contribute, please fill out this [newsletter content form](#) or email Terri Hunter at [terri.hunter@noaa.gov](mailto:terri.hunter@noaa.gov).

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